

**METHOD OF MANUFACTURE OF AN OPTICAL WAVEGUIDE ARTICLE
INCLUDING A FLUORINE-CONTAINING ZONE**

ABSTRACT

5 A method for manufacturing an optical article including the steps of providing a substrate tube; forming one or more cladding layers inside the substrate tube, the one or more cladding layers including an innermost cladding layer; forming a concentric fluorine reservoir adjacent to the innermost cladding layer; and forming a core adjacent to the fluorine reservoir and concentric with the one or more outer cladding layers. The fluorine
10 concentration in the fluorine reservoir is higher than the fluorine concentration in either the core or the innermost cladding layer.

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